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this respect the animal body and differing thereby from vascular plants of indeterminate growth.

The paper is an excellent contribution toward the solution of the problem of the formation of the fruit-bodies of higher fungi by the correlated growth of apparently independent elements. The problem has been attacked from a new standpoint by a method which has shown a closer correlation of the different parts than has hitherto been demonstrated.—H. HASSELBRING.

Coastal plain vegetation.—R. M. HARPER'S studies of the vegetation of the coastal plain (BOT. GAZETTE **40**:392, 393. 1905) continue to appear in various journals. His most pretentious work, consisting of a phytogeographical sketch of the Altamaha Grit region of the coastal plain of Georgia, has been recently reviewed in this journal (**43**:225. 1907). This admirable paper should be read by all ecologists. The fulness of citation in the bibliography accompanying this work is most excellent, and may well be copied by authors generally; in addition to the exact citation of the original paper, citation is made of reviews of the paper cited, and a short appreciation of the article is given. In the *Bull. Torr. Bot. Club* (**32**:451–467. 1905) appear accounts of phytogeographical explorations in the coastal plain of Georgia in 1904, in which are noted interesting patches of mesophytic forests rather apart from the region where such forests dominate; also a peculiar case of a pine barren similarly isolated from the great pine barren region. In the same journal are accounts of new and noteworthy plants from the coastal plain of Georgia (**33**:229–245. 1906), notes on the distribution of some Alabama plants (**33**:523–536. 1906), and an account of a midsummer journey through the Carolinas and Virginia (**34**:351–377. 1907). In the latter paper mention is made of the remarkable flatness of the region, and a type of plant society, locally known as "pocosins," is described; a "pocosin" is a sort of heathlike swampy thicket of evergreen shrubs and scattered pines especially characteristic of the Carolinas.

In *Torreya* are several short articles, one of which gives a statistical method for comparing the ages of different floras (**5**:207–210. 1905), based on the idea that monocotyls develop dominantly in a region before dicotyls; the average of a number of local lists in glaciated and coastal regions gives about 30 per cent. of monocotyls; while similar lists in older regions have about 24 per cent. of monocotyls. In the Altamaha Grit region of Georgia, the relatively young pine barrens have 44 per cent. of monocotyls; while there are but 13 per cent. in the climax forests of the region. Other papers in the same journal give short studies in the North Carolina coastal plain (**6**:41–45. 1906), the Paleozoic region of Alabama, in which some new coastal plain plants are found (**6**:111–117. 1906), southeastern Mississippi and eastern Louisiana (**6**:197–205. 1906), the Altamaha Grit region of Georgia, giving additional notes on this region (**6**:241–246. 1906), and a Long Island cedar (i. e., Chamaecyparis) swamp (**7**:198–200. 1907).

In other journals are found papers on the coastal plain plants of New England (Rhodora **8**:27–30. 1906), the vegetation of Bald Knob, Elmore County, Alabama, competition between oaks, and the forest resources of Georgia. The paper on Bald Knob (Plant World **9**:265–269. 1906) recounts an interesting occurrence of coastal plain plants on the xerophytic summit of a hill. Here there is strong evidence that this is a pioneer plant association, a fact which the author doubtless correctly thinks is in favor of the theory that the coastal pines represent a pioneer formation. The paper dealing with competition in oaks (Plant World **10**:114–116. 1907) recounts the crowding-out of specimens of *Quercus laurifolia* by *Q. Phellos*, when set out near together; the especial interest here comes from the fact that the former oak is a pioneer, and the latter a denizen of the climax forests of the region. The paper on the forest resources of Georgia (Southern Woodlands **1**:4–23. 1907) is the first of a series, and gives an account of the distributional factors involved, and the natural subdivisions of the forests of Georgia, accompanied by a map.—H. C. COWLES.

A tropical study in physiographic ecology.—WHITFORD'S paper[12] on Philippine vegetation is a record of the first attempt to test the principles of physiographic ecology in the tropics, and hence is of more than usual interest to ecologists who have worked only in the temperate zone. The area studied embraces the slopes of Mt. Mariveles, from the sea-level to an altitude of 1400 meters. The introduction includes remarks on the importance of determining the available water-content of the soil at all seasons, and some mention is made of the practical application of ecological study. The climate has well-marked wet and dry periods, and yet evergreens are as characteristic of the vegetation as are deciduous trees. The prevailing forest type is thus midway between SCHIMPER'S rain-forest and the monsoon forest. Possibly the retention of much water in the soil during the relatively short dry period is a factor in the matter.

The climax forest of the lowland is the Bambusa-Parkia forest, and it is WHITFORD'S belief that this is the general type to which other formations of the region are tending. An interesting feature here are the parangs, which are artificial formations, corresponding somewhat to our clearings. There are various types, but all seem to show evidence of gradual displacement by the culminating Bambusa-Parkia forest. A further similar evidence of this is the appearance of natural xerophytic patches resembling the parang within the Bambusa-Parkia forest. Next up the slope comes the Anisoptera-Strombosia formation, in which there is a dominance of the Dipterocarpaceae. Tables show the enormous number of tree species in these forests. Here, as in all of the formations, many details are given of the life-habits of the plants. The buttressed bases are associated with the overtowering trees of the highest forest stratum. Next come the Dipterocarpus-Shorea formation, in which 30 per cent. of the species are dipterocarps, and the Shorea-Plectronia formation. From the first to the last of the formations named above there has been a progressive increase in mesophytism, and in the dominance of the evergreen habit, correlated with a similar increase

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[12] WHITFORD, H. N., The vegetation of the Lamao forest reserve. Philipp. Jour. Sci. **1**:373–431, 637–682. 1906.